CPA Practice **Advisor**

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OCT. 29, 2005

From the November 2005 Review of Point-of-Sale Software

Keystroke POS – Version 5.20 bills itself as "a comprehensive sales management and inventory control system." Designed for the retail sector, Keystroke POS can also be used in the wholesale and service industries.

EASE OF USE — 5 Stars

The Keystroke POS main screen contains a drop-down menu with choices such as Transaction, Customer, Special, Exit, Utilities and Help. A fully customizable toolbar contains function icons such as a pop-up calculator, pop-up calendar, database query, change clerk, time clock and a pop-up Help screen. Installed modules are listed in a vertical bar to the right of the main screen under the Main Menu heading. A click on Sales Manager will provide access to the POS module.

Clicking on the List icon at the top of the screen allows you to look up customers or items. The customer can be chosen from the list or a new one can be entered on the fly. Items can be scanned using barcodes or the lookup feature can be utilized. Tendering sales is easy: Simply click on Complete in the transaction menu, choose your payment type, enter check number and click OK. You can choose to print a receipt or an invoice. Navigation is straightforward, and you can find most of the functions you need within minutes of installation. Keystroke can integrate with most hardware peripherals including receipt printers, programmable

keyboards, electronic cash drawers and barcode scanners. The company also offers a data interface to popular accounting packages.

MODULES/SCALABILITY — 5 Stars

Keystroke POS modules include Sales Manager, Database Manager, Purchase

Manager,

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FEATURES/FUNCTIONALITY — 5 Stars

The newest version of Keystroke POS began shipping in September with a new user interface as well as updated packaging. Noteworthy features include enhanced on-screen reporting, the ability to attach photos to inventory items, and the ability to enter customized detail in the Sales, Purchasing and Variance modules. The POS module easily handles regular sales transactions, as well as special transactions such as layaways and quotes. Keystroke POS stores in-depth history on all customers for easy reference. Labels can be easily printed and customer data exported to a word processing program for direct mailings. Customer, vendor and inventory can all be updated on-the-fly, and the cash drawer reconciliation feature means that there are no more unaccounted overages. For security purposes, a clerk or salesperson number is recorded on all register transactions. The included time clock means you can easily track your clerk's work time.

INTEGRATION — 5 Stars

Along with complete integration to all custom modules, Keystroke POS also integrates

with barcode scanners and other hardware peripherals, including weight scales, pin pads, programmable keyboards and signature capture devices. The GL-Link provides a data interface to many popular accounting programs including BusinessWorks,

QuickBooks, Peachtree, ACCPAC and others.

TRACKING/REPORTING — 5 Stars

Numerous reports are available and can be accessed by accessing the drop-down menu in the Reporting Manager. Reports include Sales Transaction Report, Payments Report, Customer Activity Report, Purchase Summary Reports, and a variety of database reports including customer, contact, vendor, clerk, category and location reports. Inventory reports include Analysis Reports, a History Report and Exception Reports. Customer activity can be tracked and used later in seasonal mailings

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of authorized dealers.

2005 Overall Rating: 5 Stars

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